

Require Notification of Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) Typing Changes

OPTN Histocompatibility Committee

Purpose and Proposal

- Purpose
 - Ensure better patient safety through early notification of critical HLA typing changes
 - Incorrect candidate, recipient, or donor HLA typing has the potential to lead to serious adverse events
- Proposal
 - Policy to require immediate reporting of critical HLA typing changes

Rationale

- An HLA critical discrepancy is a difference among non-equivalent values at one or more loci
 - This applies to donor, candidate, and recipient critical discrepancies
- In 2019, there were 48 critical discrepancies in HLA typing that had the potential to lead to adverse patient safety events
- Among the 27 patient safety reports related to HLA typing in the past two years, many cited delayed notifications
- Current policy does not require notification of typing changes to the host OPO or accepting transplant programs

Member Actions

- All notifications are recommended to be as soon as possible
- Notification and documentation are required once the laboratory is certain of the correct typing

Maximum notification timeframes

Member	Notifies	Within	For
Histo lab	OPO	1 hour	Donors
Histo lab	Transplant Program	5 days	Candidates
OPO	Transplant Programs	12 hours, or before procurement	Donors

What do you think?

- Should an automated electronic notification be included in implementation?
- Is it feasible to create policies for cases between procurement and transplant?
- Are the proposed notification timeframes reasonable?
- Should it be required to re-execute a match run if there is a critical HLA discrepancy?